47. The signal of claim 46, wherein the signal further comprises a preface before the receiver address and a post script after the error detector.

48. The method of claim 47, wherein the signal is transmitted via Manchester encoding.

REMARKS

With this preliminary amendment, Applicants are amending claims 1, 3, 5, 10, 11, 17, 19, 21, 26 - 28, and 33. As shown, claim language has been amended for the sake of consistency and clarity, and an annotated version of the claims is attached hereto as Exhibit A. It is believed that the foregoing amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

Favorable action in regard to the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Annotated Version of the Claims, Illustrating the Changes Made Thereto

1. (Once Amended) A system for communicating commands and sensed data between remote devices, the system comprising:

a plurality of transceivers, each transceiver being in communication with at least one other of the plurality of transceivers, wherein each transceiver has a unique address, wherein the unique address identifies an individual transceiver, wherein each transceiver is geographically remote from the other of the plurality of transceivers, wherein each transceiver communicates with each of the other transceivers via preformatted messages;

a controller, connected to one of the plurality of transceivers, the controller being in communications with each of the plurality of transceivers via [the]a controller transceiver, the controller communicating via preformatted messages,

wherein the preformatted messages comprises at least one packet, wherein the packet comprises:

a receiver address comprising a scalable address of the at least one of the intended receiving transceivers;

a sender address comprising the unique address of the sending transceiver;

a command indicator comprising a command code;

at least one data value comprising a scalable message; and

an error detector comprising a redundancy check error detector; and

wherein the controller sends preformatted command messages via [its associated] the controller transceiver, and the plurality of transceivers send preformatted response messages.

3. (Once Amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the at least one integrated transceiver receives the preformatted command message requesting sensed data, confirms the receiver address as its own unique address, receives the sensed data signal, formats the sensed data signal into scalable byte segments, determines [the] a number of segments required to contain the sensed data signal, and generates and transmits the preformatted response message comprising at least one packet, wherein the packets are equal to the number of segments.

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5. (Once Amended) The system of claim 4, wherein the packet further comprises a preface and a postscript;

wherein the preface comprises a predetermined sequence comprising a first logical level and a subsequent sequence comprising at least two bytes of a second logic level; and

wherein the postscript comprises a low voltage output.

10. (Once Amended) The system of claim 1, [wherein the plurality of transceivers further comprise at least one integrated transceiver, wherein the integrated transceiver comprises:

one of the plurality of transceivers; and

a sensor detecting a first condition and outputting a sensed data signal to the transceiver; and]

wherein the plurality of transceivers further comprises at least one actuated transceiver, wherein the actuated transceiver comprises:

one of the plurality of transceivers;

a sensor detecting a second condition and outputting a sensed data signal to the transceiver; and

an actuator controlling a third condition and receiving control signals from the transceiver.

11. (Once Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein a packet further comprises:

a packet length indicator which indicates a total number of bytes in the current packet;

a total packet indicator which indicates [the] a total number of packets in the current message;

a current packet indicator which indicates which packet of the total packets the current packet is; and

a message number, wherein the controller generates a sender message in the preformatted command message and the transceiver generates a response message number formed by a mathematical combination of the sender message number and a predetermined offset.

17. (Once Amended) A system for communicating commands and sensed data between remote devices, the system comprising:

a plurality of transceivers, each transceiver being in communication with at least one other of the plurality of transceivers, wherein each transceiver has a unique address, wherein the unique address identifies an individual transceiver, wherein each transceiver is geographically remote from the other of the plurality of transceivers, wherein each transceiver communicates with each of the other transceivers via preformatted messages;

a controller, connected to at least one of the plurality of transceivers, the controller being in communication with each of the plurality of transceivers via the controller transceiver, the controller communicating via preformatted messages, wherein the preformatted messages comprises at least one packet, wherein the packet comprises:

a receiver address comprising a scalable address of [the] at least one of the intended receiving transceivers;

a sender address comprising the unique address of the sending transceiver;

a command indicator comprising a command code;

at least one data value comprising a scalable message; and

an error detector comprising a redundancy check error detector;

wherein the controller sends preformatted command messages via its associated transceiver, and the plurality of transceivers sends preformatted response messages; and

wherein at least one of the plurality of transceivers further sends preformatted emergency messages.

19. (Once Amended) A system for controlling geographically diverse devices from a central location, the system comprising:

means for sending and receiving messages, wherein the sent messages contain commands and the received messages contain [certain] responses to the commands, wherein the message comprises at least one means for packeting a message;

a plurality of means for communicating information, the communicating means comprising:

means for receiving messages;

means for preparing responses to the received message; and

means for sending the response message;

wherein each communicating means has a unique identifying address; and

wherein the packeting means comprises

means for identifying intended recipients;

means for identifying [the] a sender;

means for indicating a command;

means for data transfer; and

means for indicating potential error.

21. (Once Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the plurality of means for communicating further comprises at least one means for integrated sensing and communicating[:]; and

wherein the integrated means comprises:

one of the communicating means, wherein the preparing means further comprises means for receiving a data signal; and

means for sensing a condition and outputting a sensed data signal to the preparing means.

26. (Once Amended) A system for controlling geographically diverse devices from a central location[.], the system comprising:

means for sending and receiving messages, wherein the sent messages comprise commands and the received messages comprise responses to the commands, wherein the message comprises at least one means for packeting a message[.];

a plurality of means for communicating information, the communicating means comprising:

means for receiving messages;

means for preparing responses to the received message; and

means for sending the response message;

wherein each communicating means has a unique identifying address; and

wherein the packeting means comprises:

means for identifying intended recipients;

means for identifying [the] a sender;

means for indicating a command;

means for data transfer;

means for indicating potential error;

means for indicating a byte length of a packet;

means for indicating a total number of packets in a message;

means for identifying a message;

means for alerting the recipient to an incoming packet; and

means for indicating and end of a packet.

27. (Once Amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the plurality of means for communicating further comprises at least one means for integrated sensing and communicating[.];

wherein the integrated means comprises:

one of the communicating means, wherein the preparing means further comprises means receiving a data signal; and

means for sensing a condition and outputting a sensed data signal to the preparing means.

28. (Once Amended) The system of claim 27, wherein the preparing means evaluates the received message for the correct unique receiver address, identifies the command code, receives the sensed data signal, processes[,] the sensed data signal into [109-byte] scalable segments and prepares the packets of the message, and the sending means sends the message.

33. (Once Amended) The system of claim 32, wherein the preparing means evaluates the received message for the correct unique receiver address, identifies the command code, receives the

sensed data signal, processes the sensed data signal into [109-byte] <u>scalable</u> segments and prepares

the packets of the message, and the sending means sends the message.